

§ 68.3

42 CFR Ch. I (10–1–15 Edition)

standard student budget for educational and living expenses for the degree program and for the year(s) during which the participant was enrolled in school. If there is no standard budget available from the school, or if the participant requests repayment for educational and living expenses that exceed the standard student budget, reasonableness of educational and living expenses incurred must be substantiated by additional contemporaneous documentation, as determined by the Secretary.

Repayable debt means the proportion, as established by the Secretary, of an individual's total qualified educational debt that can be paid by an NIH LRP.

Salary has the same meaning as *institutional base salary*.

School means undergraduate, graduate, and health professions schools that are accredited by a body or bodies recognized for accreditation purposes by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

Secretary means the Secretary of Health and Human Services or designee.

Service means the Public Health Service.

State means one of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Waiver means a waiver of the service obligation granted by the Secretary when compliance by the participant is impossible or would involve extreme hardship, or where enforcement with respect to the individual would be unconscionable. (See *Breach of contract*.)

Withdrawal means a request by a participant, prior to the Program making payments on his or her behalf, for withdrawal from Program participation. A withdrawal is without penalty to the participant and without obligation to the Program.

§ 68.3 Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible for consideration for the NIH LRPs, applicants must meet the following criteria:

(a) Be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the United States;

(b) Have the necessary degree from an accredited institution as determined by the NIH to be consistent with the needs of the LRP;

(c)(1) For Intramural LRPs only: Applicants must be employed by the NIH and engage in qualified full-time research as specified by the LRP and be recommended by the employing IC or have a firm commitment of employment from an authorized official of the NIH;

(2) For Extramural LRPs only: Applicants must be conducting qualified research for an average of at least 20 hours per week that is supported by a domestic nonprofit foundation, nonprofit professional association, or other nonprofit institution (e.g., university), or a U.S. or other government agency (Federal, state or local);

(d) Have total qualifying educational loan debt as determined on the program eligibility date;

(e) The NIH or the employing institution must provide an assurance that the applicant will be employed/appointed and provided research support for the applicable term of the LRP contract; and

(f) Recipients of LRP awards must conduct their research in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and local law (e.g., applicable human subject protection regulations).

(g) For Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Background only: Individual must be from a disadvantaged background. (See § 68.2, Definitions, *Individual from disadvantaged background*.)

§ 68.4 Who is eligible to participate?

To be eligible to participate in the NIH LRPs, individuals must:

(a) Meet the eligibility requirements specified in § 68.3 of this part;

(b) Not be ineligible for participation as specified in § 68.5 of this part;

(c) Engage in qualified research for the contractual period;

(d) Engage in such research for the percentage of time specified for the particular LRP; and

(e) Comply with all other terms and conditions of the applicable Loan Repayment Program.